

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	EAS.17
Historic Name:	Knowles, Freeman House
Common Name:	
Address:	1220 State Hwy
City/Town:	Eastham
Village/Neighborhood:	
Local No:	18-041A
Year Constructed:	c 1820
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Federal
Use(s):	Multiple Family Dwelling House; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Vinyl Siding; Wood Foundation: Brick; Stone, Uncut



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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FORM B - BUILDING

P1-5 EAS.17

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Assessor's
Number

18/041A

USGS Quad

Orleans

Area(s)

Form Number

17

Town

Eastham

(neighborhood or village)

1220 State Highway

ic Name

Present Residential

Original "

f Construction c. 1820

See Bibliography*

Form Federal

ect/Builder

or Material:

Foundation Brick and Field Stone

Wall/Trim Vinyl Siding

Roof Asphalt Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures
Free-standing Garage and Sheds.

Major Alterations (with dates)
See Architectural Description.

Condition Good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acreage .69 acres

Setting Located in a densely-settled, mixed-use, but largely residential section of Route 6, the major, Cape Cod, inter-community thoroughfare, the former county road and a continuation of the original Old King's Highway.

here. Indicate North.



Recorded by: Dianne L. Siergiej

Organization: Commonweal Collaborative

Date: May 1995

RECEIVED

SEP 20 1995

MASS. HIST. COMM.

BUILDING FORM

1220 State Highway

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION See continuation sheet.

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

Although the main block of this pyramidal-roofed, 2-story, 3 x 3-bay house has the basic shape to suggest a federal house, it lacks the expected symmetry, plan and other academic attributes of the style. The addition of lateral wing creates an L-plan to the entire residence which incongruously also retains a center chimney plan with a tall and corbeled cap and dentiled trim. Now a 2-family dwelling, an exterior stair has been added to the rear elevation. Application of vinyl siding has covered detail, but an earlier photograph published in Lowe's history indicates end boards, water table and cap moldings on windows were formerly in place. The main entry had a simplified entablature. The existing main entry consists of a 4-panel, wooden door with etched glass upper lights. The secondary entry of a wooden cottage door with rectangular light retains a surround with cap molding. A 1-story, angled-prow bay has been added to the rear elevation.

Outbuildings include 2 small, 1-story, gable-roofed shed oriented perpendicular to one another to the east of the house and a free-standing, 3-bay, gable-roofed, garage.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE X See continuation sheet.

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

According to "Notes on Old Eastham Houses" in the file for this property at the Eastham Historical Society Archives this house was built c. 1820 by Freeman Knowles (b. Eastham, November 27, 1779; d. June 22, 1838) son of William and Rebecca (Freeman) Knowles. Freeman Knowles was a businessman who bought a substantial amount of land known as Smith Heights located on both sides of the street around 1813. As a result, several of his descendants occupied houses in the immediate vicinity.

Freeman Knowles married Martha Mayo (b. December 10, 1790; d. Eastham, 1851), daughter of James Mayo. They had seven children: Temperance Knowles (b. February 12, 1816); Asa May Knowles (b. January 8, 1818; d. September 23, 1829; Edmund Knowles (b. October 25, 1819); Freeman Knowles (b. October 26, 1821; d. March 17, 1909); Hannah L. Knowles (b. September 30, 1823); Josiah M. Knowles (b. Eastham, March 27, 1826; d. Eastham, 1885) and William P. Knowles (b. November 21, 1827).

According to title research by Ruth E. Mayo, this property was inherited in 1885 by Josiah M. Knowles, a farmer, whose family lived here for a period with his mother, Martha Knowles. Josiah M. Knowles was married three times:

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES X See continuation sheet.

 Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places;
If checked, see attached National Register Criteria Statement form.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (continued)

(1) in 1850 to Susan Snow (b. c. 1830); (2) on July 30, 1853 to Rebecca F. Knowles (b. November 5, 1832) and (3) on November 26, 1864, to Mary Porter Knowles (b. May 10, 1840; d. February 12, 1909), sister of his second wife. Josiah M. Knowles had three children who survived, all progeny of his second wife: Herbert L. Knowles (b. July 22, 1855), Susan William Knowles (b. July 11, 1857; d. January 27, 1915) who married Walter H. Dill and Edward Everett Knowles (b. May 4, 1860; d. December 1927).

The last inherited the property in 1885, but Mary Knowles, widow of Josiah, and Susan W. Knowles Dill, daughter of Josiah and widow Walter Dill continued to live here with him. Edward E. Knowles married Alice Linwood on November 11, 1895. They had two children: Rebecca Alice Knowles (b. January 9, 1899), who married Howard E. Sherman on June 20, 1936, and Della Linwood (b. May 5, 1907), who married Paul C. Macomber on August 17, 1929. Rebecca Knowles Sherman and Della Knowles Macomber inherited the property and were living here together in the 1970's.

Freeman Knowles married Joanna Smith on April 9, 1848. They had four children: Walter Osborne Knowles (b. 1852), Esther Anna Knowles (b. 1858), Freeman Elsworth Knowles (b. 1861) and James Paxton Knowles (b. 1873).

Freeman Knowles in his will (Docket No. 15543) dated December 22, 1897 bequeath his dwelling and all his property on the east side of County Road not otherwise disposed to his son, James P. Knowles.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (continued)

Hales, John G. Map of the Town of Eastham, 1830.

*House files 1150 and 1220 State Highway, Eastham Historical Society Archives.

Quinn, Howard. Transcript of Oral History Tape, Eastham Historical Society Archives.

Roger, Josiah, Knowles, Elijah and Kinsman, Simeon. Map of the Town of Eastham, 1794.

*Walker, George F. Atlas of Barnstable County. Boston: George F. Walker & Co., 1880.

_____. Atlas of Barnstable County. Boston Walker Lithographer and Publishing Co., 1908.

*Wallings, Henry F. Map of Eastham. Boston: D. R. Smith Co., 1858.



